NOU-20-2003 16:37 ALCATEL USA, INC.

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Serial No.: 09/648,019 Group Art Unit: 2633 Examiner: David C. Payne

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant(s):

Kenneth Y. Maxham

Docket: 135661 **CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

Serial No.:

09/648,019

Art Unit: Examiner: 2633 David C. Payne

NOV 2 0 2003

Filed: Title:

August 25, 2000 Safety Shutdown System for a WDM Fiber Optic Communications Network

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Certificate Under 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the U.S. Patent Office to 703-872-9314, Attention Examiner David C. Payne, on November 20, 2003 in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.6(d).

Dear Commissioner:

In response to the Office Action ("Office Action") dated May 20, 2003, please enter the following amendment: